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CULTURAL eMAGAZINE

INK OCHi

FIRST OF ITS KIND FROM KERALA

VOL-1 ISSUE - 35
DEC 10-16, 2021

35

Traditional Dresses of Algeria

- Kondana Caves
- Amazing to Know
- Book Launch
- Tarot Reading

Introducing...

Bhuvaneshwari Rajoria

LATER

By: Dr. Tharanath Ramachandran

www.inkochibulletin.wordpress.com

CULTURAL eMAGAZINE
INKOCHi
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Editor's Note

IMPORTANCE OF TRADITIONAL DRESSES

There are a wide variety of festivals celebrated around the world which is a true manifestation of its rich culture and traditions. During these festivals, people prefer to wear traditional clothes. Every person's wardrobe (be it that of a man or woman) is incomplete without the traditional and ethnic wear.

Wearing traditional clothes is important because it shows that you value your cultural traditions. Wearing traditional clothes on festive occasions reflects the respect and love you have for the traditional values of your family.

Your dear and loved ones will be happy to see you in traditional ethnic wear on various occasions like festivals and family functions. In addition to that, traditional and ethnic clothes give you a distinct cultural and traditional appeal which makes you look alluring, fashionable, gorgeous, and a fashionista at the same time.

Happy Reading...!!
Varghese T. Thomas

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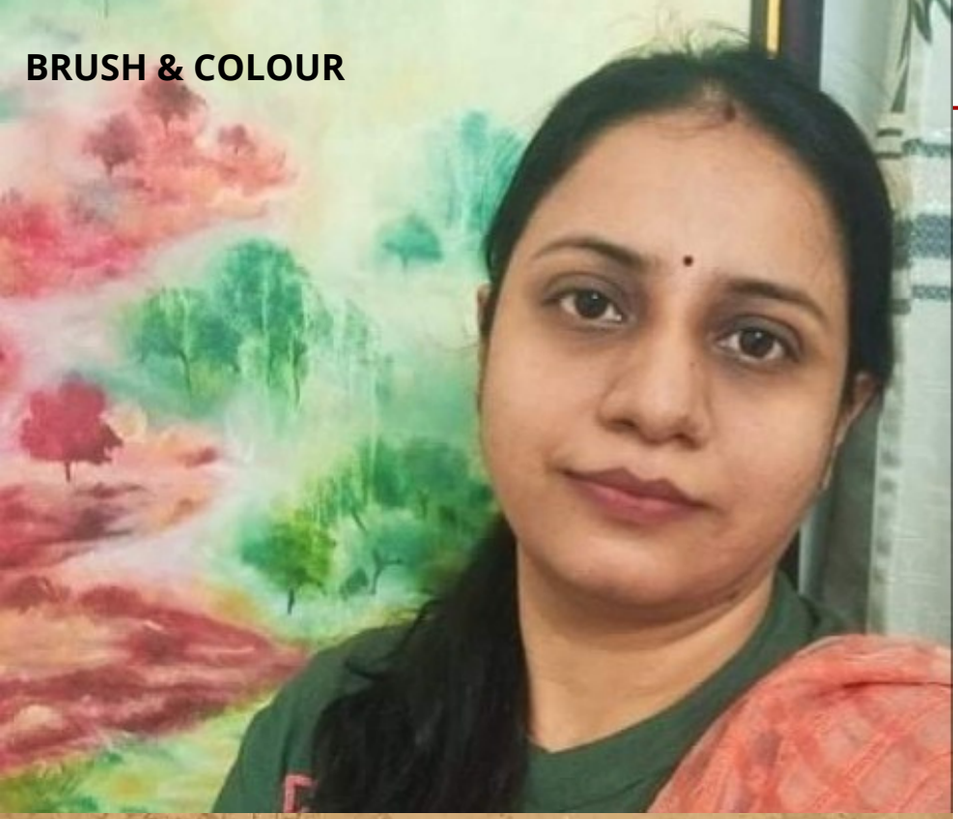
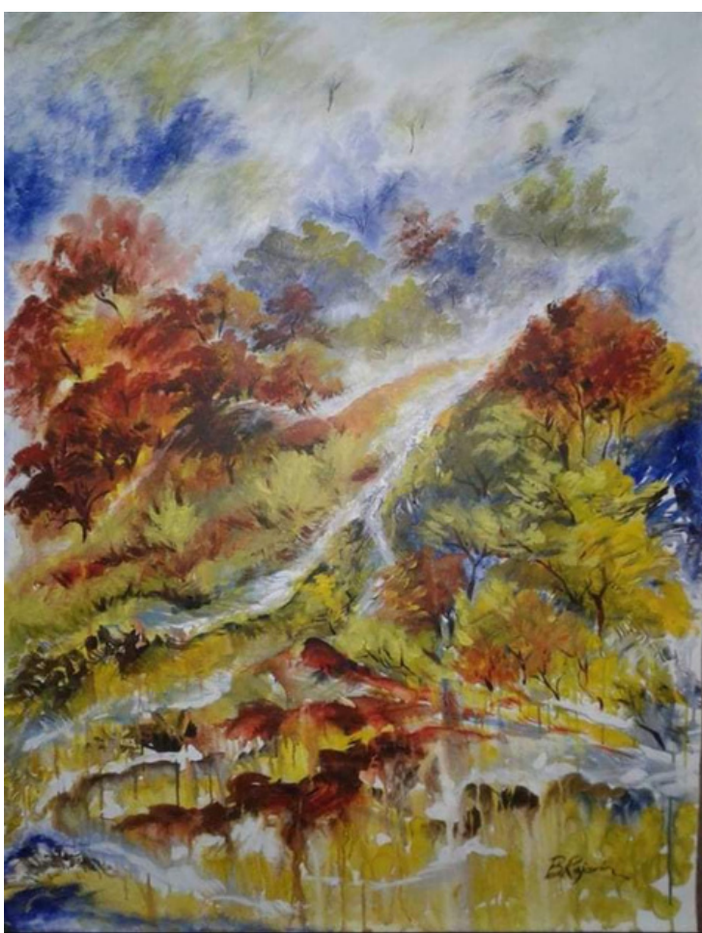


INTRODUCING

BHUVANESHWARI RAJORIA



Bhuvaneshwari Rajoria, gold medalist in visual art from Bikaner, Rajasthan. She is working especially on water colour medium trying to exploring various abstract form in nature. She also working on oil, acrylic, ink etc. She enjoys reading, photography and music.

Her uncle late Suresh C. Rajoria an eminent and popular artist was behind her for inspiration in art field.

Bhuvaneshwari completed her Master Degree in drawing and painting at Banasthali Vidhyapith (woman university), Tonk, Rajasthan.

Reach : bhuvi.rajoria01@gmail.com

Bhuvaneshwari Rajoria, has participated in more than 25 National & States level exhibitions, workshops and seminars.

Watercolour, Acrylic, Oil & Ink

Contact:

Suni Mathew

GREEN DAYS HOME DECOR

Vyttila, Kochi.

cochingarden@gmail.com

9526 20 1100

KONDANA CAVES

By: Laxman Burdak, IFS (R)

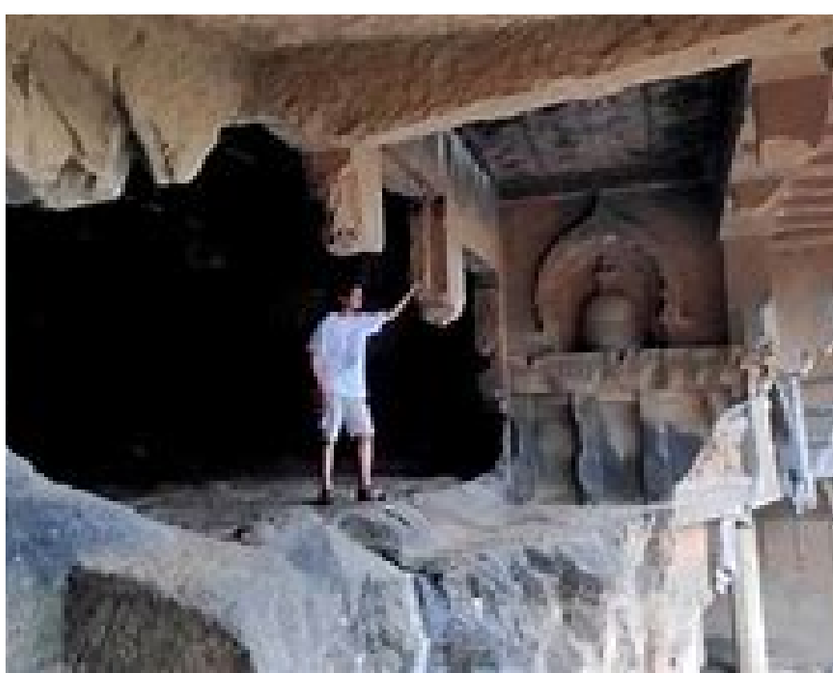
Kondana Caves, a group of 16 Buddhist caves, is situated 33 km north of Lonavala in a small village, Kondana, in Karjat. These caves with several stupas and sculptures offer a glimpse into the ancient lifestyle of the Buddhist monks. If you are a history buff, you will definitely like this place. >>

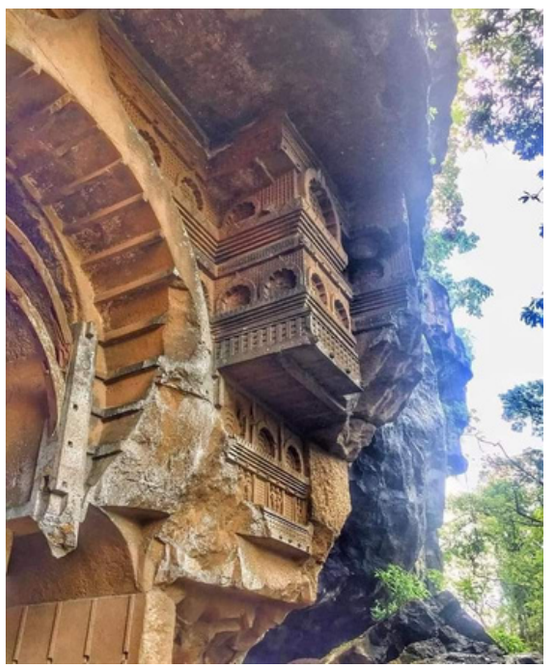
KONDANA CAVES

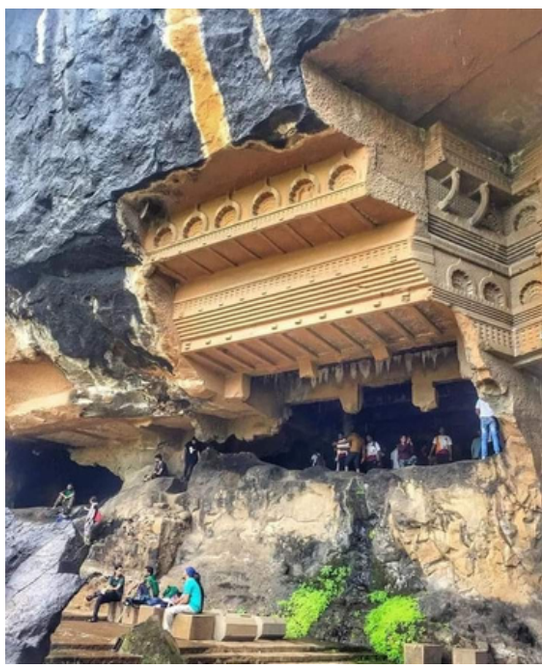
An earthquake in the early 1900s destroyed the floor, many stupas and the front entrance of Kondana Caves that were excavated in the first century BC. The beautiful wooden pattern and the prayer hall along with other structures are still intact. You will see beautiful carvings on the walls of the caves. There is an inscription in the prayer hall that informs you about the donors. >>

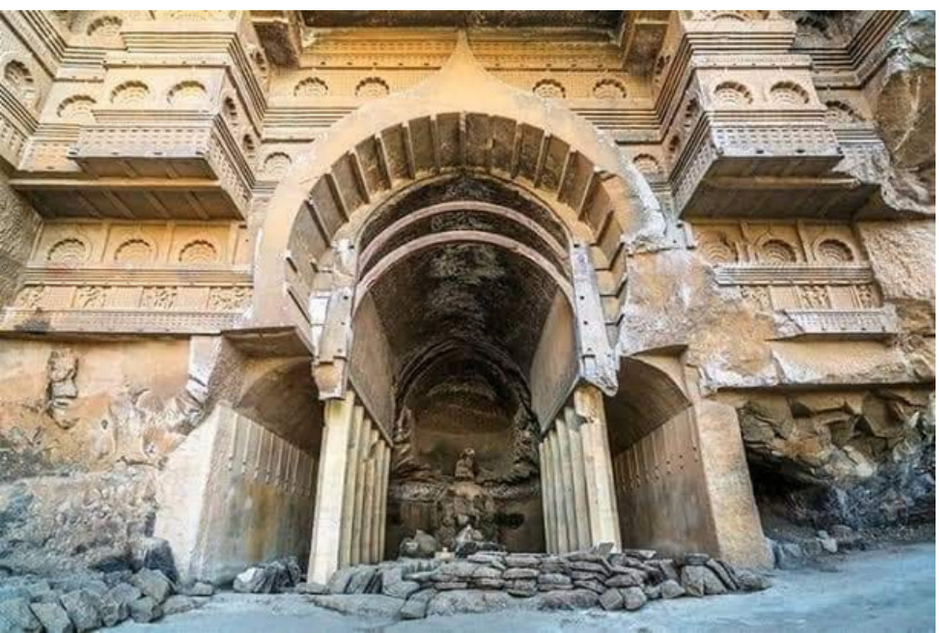
KONDANA CAVES

This cave group has 16 Buddhist caves. The caves were excavated in first century B.C. The construction on wooden pattern is notable. <>









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COVER

TRADITIONAL DRESSES OF ALGERIA

By: James Mraulak

Similar to Tunisia and Morocco, traditional clothing in Algeria can be categorized into urban and rural dress etiquette.

Though women's clothing was subject to more outside influences and changes than men's, there are still many garments and staple items that showcase ancient Andalusian and Ottoman pull.

In this article, we explore the various pieces that constitute traditional Algerian clothing.

So read along to learn more about the Tuareg, the Kabyli, as well as Northern folk of Algeria and how their fashion is deeply entrenched into their ethnic identity. >>

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TRADITIONAL DRESSES OF ALGERIA

Traditional Women Clothing in Algeria

Although women of Algeria somewhat abandoned traditional dress in favor of more modern Western styles by the 20th century, the Biskra region has managed to resist that transformation for quite some time.

This is in part due to the fine quality of garments as well as their intricate designs, courtesy of traditional Andalusian influence.

In Northeastern Algeria, women primarily heavily embroidered velvet Kaftans with gold and silver accents. These divine Kaftans showcased the elaborate stitching prowess of artisan dressmakers. >>

TRADITIONAL DRESSES OF ALGERIA

Some of the most common touches included floral and arabesque patterns in bright yellow, orange, green, and blue silk threads.

In addition to that, women wore a short and tightly fitter vest or bolero jacket, also made from the same materials and embroidered using the same gold and silver detailing.

The use of such rich threads was an indicative sign of luxury, wealth, and opulence. So in this context, the richer the family, the more prominent the use of metal threads in clothing.

When leaving the house, Algerian women would wear a large cloth outer layer called Haik in Arabic.

The Haik was typically made from an all-natural white or cream blend of cotton and wool.

This robe covered the women's body from head to toe, it was wrapped around in a way that her face was covered too with a small opening for her eyes to see out. >>

A less conservative option would be wearing a face veil that is separate from the Haik. Rural women in Algeria shared many common pieces of clothing with their counterparts in Tunisia and Morocco.

For instance, a heavy dark cotton and wool blend cloth was tied at the shoulders or pinned using big silver brooches.

This outer garment is called Khilalat, also known as Tizerzai in Berber dialect. This item of clothing was usually plain, but there's a more detailed version featuring a large checkered pattern.

In addition to that, most of the dresses were tied around the waist using a metal belt or a large sash.

Single women often wore belts in white and blue shades, while red was solely reserved for married women. >>

TRADITIONAL DRESSES OF ALGERIA

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Traditional Men Clothing in Algeria

Northern Algeria represented the most populated region in the country prior to the French invasion and colonization. Men in Algeria wore many similar garments to those who lived in urban areas in North Africa.

The typical outfit included plain white cotton shirts with puffy sleeves and an open collar. This was layered with an embroidered waistcoat and an additional tight fitted vest.

The bolero-like jacket was also embroidered and the amount of stitching and type of materials used would indicate the social class and status of Algerian men.

In addition to that, they also wore Turkish inspired trousers called Sirwal. These trousers are really baggy and designed using an ample amount of cloth and cuffed at the knees. >>

They’re usually tied at the waist with a pull string. Some men also wore knee-high stockings that joined the bottom cuff of the trousers.

For footwear, the shoe of choice was a pair of slippers called Balghah and made from leather in a style that is exclusive to Arab countries. The baggy trousers and the puffy shirt were joined at the waist with a large sash made of silk or some blend of cotton and taffeta.

The sash is then wrapped around the shoulders then tied at the midriff by sticking the loose end in and around itself.

Nobility men coming from a wealthy background would usually stash a fancy dagger into that belt, and later on a pistol. On the other hand, those living in urban areas usually wore a red felt hat featuring a long black tassel.

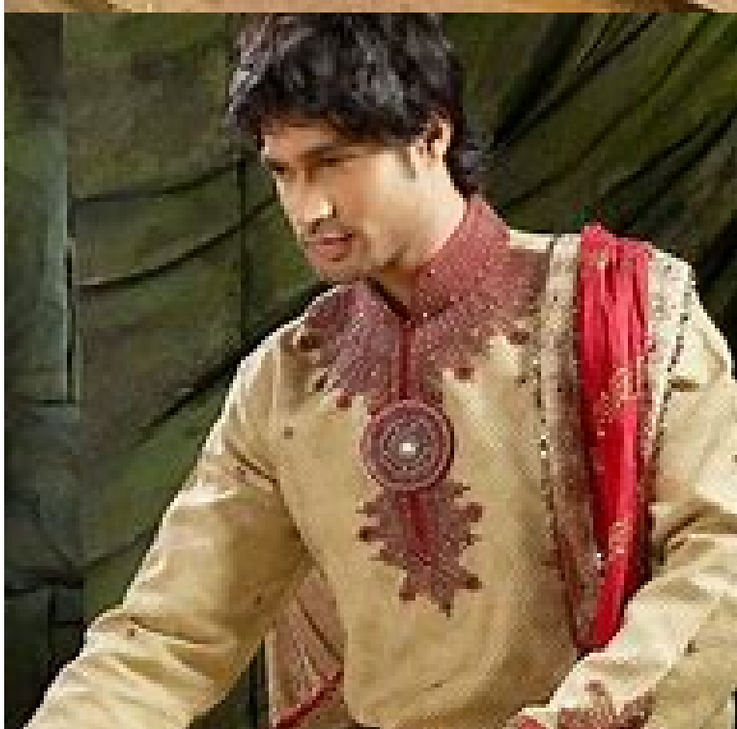
This is the standard North African fez, though in Algeria it’s more commonly known as Shashiya or Chechia. >>

The quality of the hat, whether it's a rough fabric for everyday use or a luxurious one adorned with a black silk tassel marked the social class and status of men.

Moreover, this hat was sometimes paired with a wrap cloth at the bottom of the cap. Again, the more expensive and extravagant the cloth, the higher their status. In the winter, Algerian men wore a long hooded cloak called a Burnous or Salham.

With that said, men living in more urban regions wore a shorter version of this cloak, made to suit all seasons. Interestingly, this form of dress was later adopted by French military officers, though was never part of their official clothing.

Both Berber and Arab rural men tended to wear clothes determined by climate. That is to say based on whether they lived in the mountains, on the barren plains and deserts, or on the Mediterranean coast. >>



TRADITIONAL DRESSES OF ALGERIA

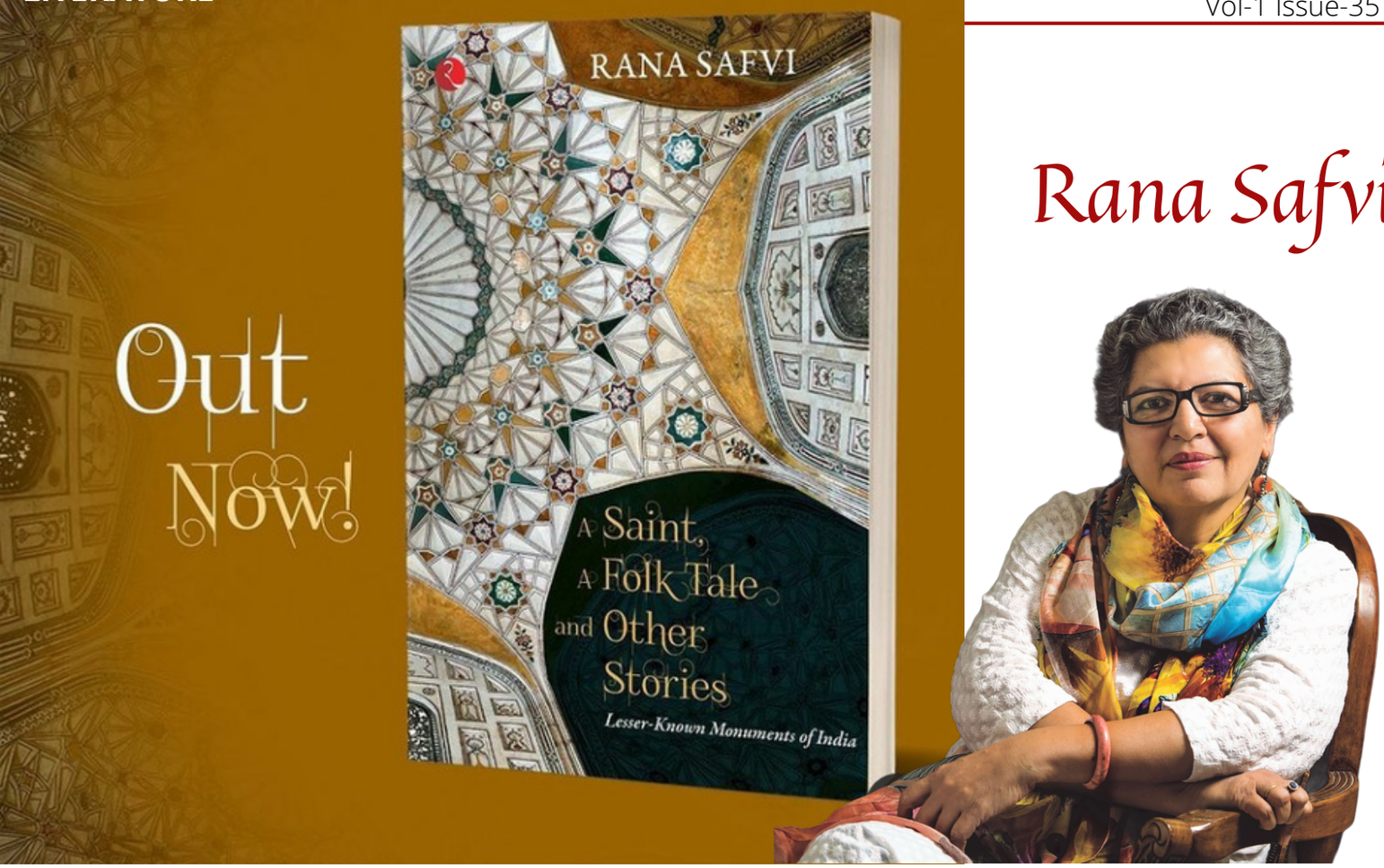
However, unlike Northern Algerian folk, rural clothing was much rougher in structure and feel since the contents of their wardrobes were primarily homemade.

Moreover, rural men also wore long woolen robes sewn in the front with a hood called Djellaba, and instead of the standard red cap, they usually opted for a turban known as Shaysh. This headwrap is typically long enough to cover the nose and mouth to protect the wearer from sand, dust, and the cold. <>

amazing to know

Contribution: Usmaan Kham

The oldest known pants dates from 1122-926 B.C. through radiocarbon dating analysis on samples.
They have been foun in Yanghai cemetery, near the city of Turfan, Uighur autonomous region, in the Taklimakan desert.



I take my readers on to a journey of India beyond the tourist destinations and offers travel advise and tips especially for solo women travellers.

India, with its ancient civilization and all its diversity, is a paradise for someone who loves heritage like I do. These past 5-6 years, I have been travelling extensively in India but I have still not managed to visit more than a small percentage of the glorious built heritage that we have. I have always had a penchant for travelling off the beaten path and a fascination for the unknown.

I share my experiences ith historical research, anecdotal history and stories connected to 20 such monuments that had my heart.

A SAINT, A FOLK TALE AND OTHER STORIES: LESSER-KNOWN MONUMENTS OF INDIA

DR. THARANATH RAMACHANDRAN

Dr. Tharanath R. is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Physics, Aquinas College, Edacochin, Kerala.

Apart from writing poetry in Malayalam, he has a passion for painting and studying the mysteries of the outer space.

His poems have appeared in contemporary Malayalam literary magazines both online and in print.

Later

After having died
I was sitting atop the highest branch
of the tallest tree
looking down in sheer surprise.

In my past heights terrified me
In the present-day death
that fear has left me
I won't fall even if I let go of the branch.
Beneath me a crowd of mourners
deliberating the process of burial
amidst tears and whispers.
The cause of my death hasn't been recorded
Are they talking about it?
Speak louder please,
I want to find me.
The tree was growing taller
I am moving farther from the house of death.

As a parachute drops you
gently from the skies
The tree was easing me away from the earth.

I am sure my post-death future
lies in the abyss of the sky.
My house is now a mere dot below
And the earth a mud-pot.

>>

Later

continued...

I am sure my post-death future
lies in the abyss of the sky.
My house is now a mere dot below
And the earth a mud-pot.

Suddenly a blue light glowed
in the dot
That was my phone
The earth wanted to know the
four digits that locked my secrets
The secrets not wanting to be left unclaimed
Wailed begging me to take them along.
Slowly the blue light grew
Till the blue cavern threatened to swallow
The darkening earth
The earth shaking free
fell upon vacuum in broken bits

In the greenish blue light

That oozed from the broken pot
I searched for the wet secrets.

---Tharanath Ramachandran
(original in Malayalam)

Translated by:

DR. PRIYA K. NAIR

Dr. Priya K Nair is an Assistant Professor in English at St. Teresa's College, Cochin, India.

She is recognized as a research guide and has translated *Francis Itty Cora, Sugandhi Alias Andal Devanayaki* by T. D. Ramakrishnan as well as *Dead Men Tell Tales* by Dr. Umadathan published by Harper Collins.

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Portraying KERALA

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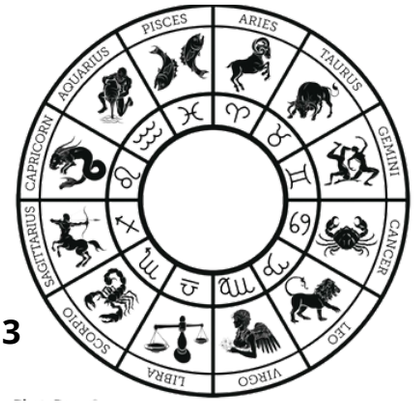
WEEKLY Tarot Reading

By: Chaitali Mukherjee

https://youtube.com/c/TarotPriestess1313



Your Next 7 Days

Dec 10-16, 2021

Month of resolutions in all parts of life, special attention to finances. Work partners would be agreeable. You will find love by being close to your partner. You will be at peace with yourself.	**ARIES**	**LIBRA**	A time of financial instability and emotional instability as well. Family support or support from people you count on will not be coming easily. Your time can be wasted on futile issues that don't help.
The time is right to purchase a house or property. Advantageous period for career and economic growth. Someone around you will be deceptive be vigilant. Be optimistic in love.	**TAURUS**	**SCORPIO**	You will be loved and respected in your work place. Your useful friendships will unexpectedly solve your professional or family & home issues. Your crisis in love will be sorted and positive developments are underway.
Harmony and a happy go lucky period. A surprise declaration of love by someone will make you happy. Time for celebrations, because of a happy event. An interesting job proposal can bear fruit.	**GEMINI**	**SAGITTARIUS**	Set aside fears and fantasies to look at reality clearly. A house move, transfer, a new appointment will be beneficial. A fair haired influential person will help you. A lucrative deal will definitely work out for you.
Something will cause displeasure at this time. Regarding a work proposal or partnership a disappointment will strip away all illusions and you will need to let go. Loss of trust, loss of security, a forced move can happen.	**CANCER**	**CAPRICORN**	Act quickly without losing your head. Success will be proportional to speed of action and movement. Trips and travel on the cards. Relationships will be loyal, friendships will bring happiness. A professional issue will get sorted.
A period of small misunderstandings and cooling of feelings regarding love and life. Some stress due to a work phase ending or retirement on the cards. You will feel provoked or disinterested with emerging situations.	**LEO**	**AQUARIUS**	The thoughts this week are around work and professional organization. You will find success in secretly cultivated projects and dreams. When faced with an obstacle, your habit of noting dates or facts will help.
A good time to make purchases for home renovations. Parties, invitations and celebrations. The sentimental situation you think about will take a positive turn. You will get an interesting proposal at work.	**VIRGO**	**PISCES**	A proposal, an interview, an appointment is on the way which can mean placement away from home. A trip is on the cards. You will get professional success, lot of admiration and respect. Your love relationship will be long lasting.

To know more about your reading, please watch her YouTube channel - Link in the Homepage

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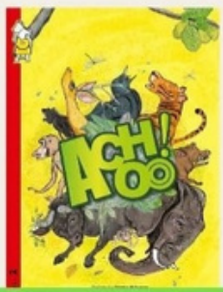

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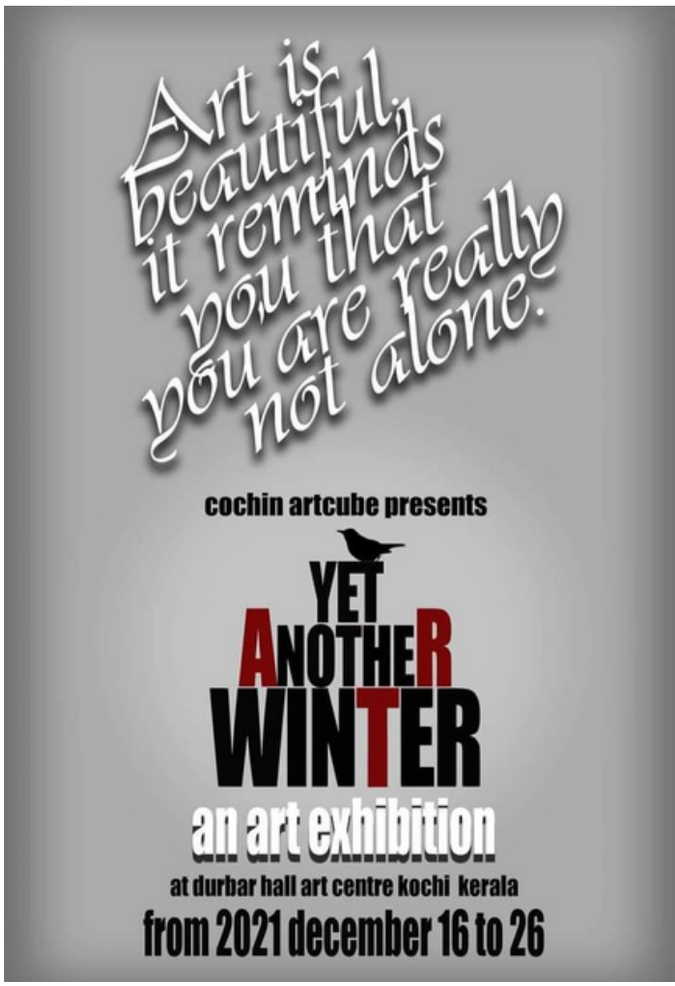
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